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American Petroleum Institute
1220 L Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20005

Monthly Completion Report

STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
Special Projects Section
(202) 682-8492/682-8518

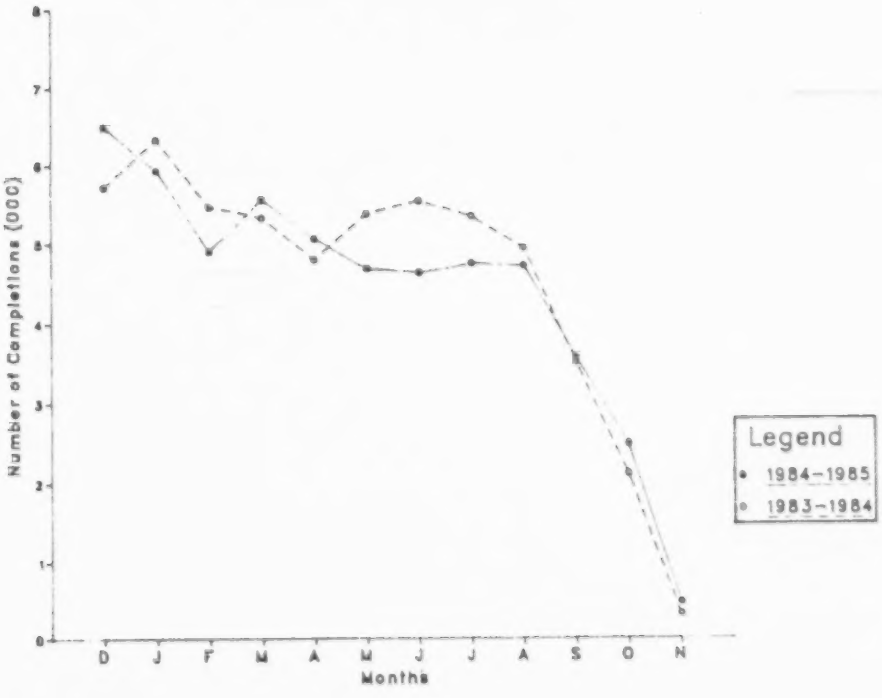
Report Month: NOVEMBER 1985

REPORT ON WELL COMPLETIONS IN THE UNITED STATES[1]

Wells actually completed in the current month may not be reported until several months later. The chart shown below illustrates the cumulative number of well completions for the current month and each of the eleven prior months, as now reported to the API. For comparison purposes, a corresponding curve describes the data, as then reported to the API, for the same twelve-month period a year ago.

These data are preliminary and subject to revision. The number of wells shown in the chart excludes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells. The geographic distribution for wells and footage is not published on a monthly basis, but is available from the API's "Quarterly Completion Report."

Cumulative Number of Wells Reported as Completed
For Each of the Past 12 Months



TABEL I: CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF TOTAL WELLS AND FOOTAGE DRILLED IN THE UNITED STATES BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR, AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 1985[1]

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS & DRY HOLES		TOTAL ALL WELLS[4]	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1985	23,540	97,584,567	8,825	49,040,339	14,359	72,995,890	46,724	219,620,796	47,753	223,139,270
1985: NOV	205	1,033,552	57	302,694	206	1,269,043	468	2,605,289	475	2,617,307
OCT	1,213	5,400,608	413	2,283,104	855	4,276,825	2,481	11,960,537	2,507	12,049,069
SEP	1,832	7,376,743	593	3,363,106	1,138	5,821,708	3,563	16,561,557	3,614	16,704,793
AUG	2,443	9,836,976	796	4,300,708	1,472	7,079,392	4,711	21,217,076	4,765	21,374,119
JUL	2,375	9,356,985	890	4,865,958	1,477	7,087,149	4,742	21,310,092	4,848	21,629,684
JUN	2,357	9,496,810	881	4,685,489	1,389	6,700,418	4,627	20,882,717	4,738	21,302,831
MAY	2,386	10,228,285	850	4,741,196	1,443	7,410,548	4,679	22,380,029	4,816	22,896,630
APR	2,604	10,730,218	911	5,267,075	1,546	7,878,917	5,061	23,876,210	5,170	24,231,669
MAR	2,802	11,786,719	1,091	6,178,988	1,663	8,335,704	5,556	26,301,411	5,706	26,759,207
FEB	2,430	10,402,835	1,090	6,128,730	1,382	7,370,656	4,902	23,902,221	5,028	24,322,792
JAN	2,893	11,934,836	1,253	6,923,291	1,788	9,765,530	5,934	28,623,657	6,086	29,251,169
TOTAL 1984	40,103	154,788,988	15,639	84,038,169	23,778	114,373,366	79,520	353,200,523	81,465	358,528,689
1984: DEC	3,188	11,987,250	1,371	7,042,472	1,937	9,976,690	6,496	29,006,412	6,630	29,427,672
NOV	3,334	12,609,145	1,470	7,412,299	1,871	9,337,153	6,675	29,358,597	6,824	29,796,174
OCT	3,355	13,548,057	1,440	7,645,473	1,934	9,270,234	6,729	30,463,764	6,934	31,086,126
SEP	3,308	12,365,731	1,308	6,856,656	1,966	9,198,824	6,582	28,421,211	6,710	28,769,995
AUG	3,542	13,157,061	1,473	7,741,207	2,387	10,866,669	7,402	31,764,937	7,575	32,280,747
JUL	3,623	13,703,609	1,318	7,232,043	2,185	9,984,751	7,126	30,920,403	7,267	31,380,078
JUN	3,567	13,250,725	1,380	7,222,646	2,243	10,193,094	7,190	30,666,465	7,358	31,106,374
MAY	3,454	13,416,027	1,262	6,974,684	1,886	9,197,154	6,602	29,587,865	6,764	29,977,748
APR	3,034	11,515,524	937	5,573,980	1,654	8,207,323	5,625	25,296,827	5,814	25,737,481
MAR	3,223	13,024,722	1,087	6,555,737	1,731	8,711,875	6,041	28,292,334	6,214	28,718,922
FEB	3,158	12,626,230	1,255	6,645,887	1,751	8,735,131	6,164	28,007,248	6,312	28,423,812
JAN	3,317	13,584,907	1,338	7,135,085	2,233	10,694,468	6,888	31,414,460	7,043	31,823,560
TOTAL 1983	35,535	133,433,316	13,989	74,775,210	23,009	101,823,594	72,933	310,032,120	74,916	314,717,604
1983: DEC	2,970	11,305,857	1,299	6,581,710	1,914	9,177,770	6,183	27,065,337	6,327	27,427,991
NOV	3,217	12,325,249	1,252	6,139,171	2,113	9,735,136	6,582	28,199,556	6,759	28,638,093
OCT	3,265	12,419,720	1,387	6,857,512	2,159	9,534,070	6,811	28,811,302	6,981	29,226,414
SEP	3,188	11,694,330	1,241	6,424,396	1,974	8,394,160	6,403	26,512,886	6,575	26,867,426
AUG	3,361	11,798,990	1,315	6,599,026	2,070	8,500,124	6,746	26,898,140	6,969	27,474,082
JUL	3,042	10,825,610	1,084	5,675,134	1,956	8,129,647	6,082	24,630,391	6,258	25,021,717
JUN	2,862	10,389,927	1,033	5,845,113	1,857	7,334,034	5,752	23,569,074	5,923	23,916,189
MAY	2,642	10,390,291	936	5,489,191	1,723	7,582,796	5,301	23,462,278	5,485	23,927,721
APR	2,554	9,812,689	872	5,201,205	1,556	7,175,711	4,982	22,189,605	5,104	22,477,976
MAR	2,868	11,036,341	1,070	6,114,425	1,845	8,515,096	5,783	25,665,862	5,945	25,998,271
FEB	2,540	9,640,674	1,085	6,068,174	1,719	7,808,234	5,344	23,517,082	5,463	23,823,848
JAN	3,426	11,793,638	1,415	7,780,153	2,123	9,936,816	6,964	29,510,607	7,127	29,917,876
TOTAL 1982	38,341	146,506,919	18,571	104,412,308	25,496	121,155,499	82,408	372,074,726	84,620	377,339,578
TOTAL 1981	42,819	169,345,774	19,887	106,396,975	27,246	132,779,054	89,952	408,521,803	92,333	414,373,290

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE II: CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF EXPLORATORY WELLS AND FOOTAGE DRILLED IN THE UNITED STATES BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR, AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 1985[1]

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS & DRY HOLES	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1985	1,388	7,951,356	886	5,688,479	6,596	36,750,395	8,870	50,390,230
1985: NOV	9	40,003	5	19,434	101	686,884	115	746,321
OCT	88	493,218	24	123,748	390	2,110,845	502	2,727,811
SEP	91	472,032	48	298,131	551	2,939,549	690	3,709,712
AUG	145	829,009	72	408,820	684	3,587,669	901	4,825,498
JUL	124	689,202	76	437,236	666	3,500,610	866	4,627,048
JUN	104	558,493	95	672,139	617	3,146,026	816	4,376,658
MAY	151	869,948	116	715,504	634	3,559,174	901	5,144,626
APR	135	728,554	103	696,009	690	3,955,336	928	5,379,899
MAR	182	1,104,064	94	621,467	734	4,166,692	1,010	5,892,223
FEB	167	1,035,499	113	757,413	678	3,982,173	958	5,775,085
JAN	192	1,131,334	140	938,578	851	5,115,437	1,183	7,185,349
TOTAL 1984	2,265	12,400,345	1,539	9,650,382	10,773	57,536,413	14,597	79,587,140
1984: DEC	148	776,077	103	558,132	935	5,407,457	1,186	6,741,666
NOV	179	973,935	105	634,160	847	4,719,909	1,131	6,328,004
OCT	164	841,742	136	885,111	928	4,736,785	1,228	6,463,638
SEP	213	1,167,415	126	856,165	881	4,529,023	1,220	6,552,603
AUG	181	968,256	120	785,725	1,035	5,450,019	1,336	7,204,000
JUL	191	999,685	150	978,596	1,038	5,168,380	1,379	7,146,661
JUN	194	1,098,077	132	763,512	1,045	5,239,728	1,371	7,101,317
MAY	213	1,173,122	135	825,114	822	4,517,634	1,170	6,515,870
APR	152	893,125	99	677,072	744	4,029,913	995	5,600,110
MAR	213	1,187,696	150	1,017,770	728	4,118,661	1,091	6,324,127
FEB	204	1,144,595	150	881,778	790	4,409,971	1,144	6,436,344
JAN	233	1,176,620	133	787,247	980	5,208,933	1,346	7,172,800
TOTAL 1983	2,099	10,478,360	1,634	10,165,996	9,890	47,998,423	13,623	68,642,779
1983: DEC	152	750,556	125	758,539	812	4,228,101	1,089	5,737,196
NOV	170	836,899	111	686,553	924	4,467,397	1,205	5,990,849
OCT	203	1,066,423	136	815,371	916	4,436,586	1,255	6,318,380
SEP	174	860,222	131	774,003	886	4,023,214	1,191	5,657,439
AUG	183	785,072	135	780,256	872	3,832,356	1,190	5,397,684
JUL	179	821,521	130	725,264	827	3,665,723	1,136	5,212,508
JUN	165	797,001	130	841,296	828	3,539,990	1,123	5,178,287
MAY	159	925,095	150	984,934	771	3,791,936	1,080	5,701,965
APR	177	870,476	133	868,733	640	3,336,040	950	5,075,249
MAR	174	933,550	148	890,628	771	4,076,626	1,093	5,900,804
FEB	169	906,631	146	988,959	702	3,711,093	1,017	5,606,683
JAN	194	924,914	159	1,051,460	941	4,889,361	1,294	6,865,735
TOTAL 1982	2,458	13,394,260	2,149	14,649,135	11,149	60,081,942	15,756	88,125,337
TOTAL 1981	2,667	15,436,606	2,532	17,031,054	12,290	68,803,130	17,489	101,270,790

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE III: TOTAL NUMBER OF WELLS AND FOOTAGE ADDITIONS[1] BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR REPORTED TO THE API DURING NOVEMBER 1985

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS AND DRY HOLES		TOTAL WELLS REPORTED[4] CURRENT MONTH	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1985	2,941	11,071,271	1,221	6,258,809	1,631	7,934,484	5,793	25,264,564	5,905	25,597,795
1985: NOV	205	1,033,552	57	302,694	206	1,269,043	468	2,605,289	475	2,617,307
OCT	969	4,156,051	350	1,937,184	566	2,621,008	1,885	8,714,243	1,906	8,792,701
SEP	637	2,273,967	253	1,297,384	305	1,563,103	1,195	5,134,454	1,217	5,204,387
AUG	324	1,275,112	135	694,977	195	907,750	654	2,877,839	666	2,906,747
JUL	207	663,344	82	395,953	116	497,401	405	1,556,698	423	1,624,652
JUN	127	454,987	65	328,235	81	407,909	273	1,191,131	273	1,191,131
MAY	93	271,305	50	278,363	49	211,378	192	761,066	196	770,354
APR	116	286,189	52	244,826	43	176,341	211	707,356	221	735,365
MAR	112	291,484	68	286,130	23	104,015	203	681,629	212	703,021
FEB	77	198,588	65	277,475	25	82,709	167	558,772	169	562,932
JAN	74	166,692	44	215,568	22	93,827	140	476,087	147	489,198
TOTAL 1984	573	712,285	151	655,006	130	496,301	654	1,863,592	693	1,929,960
1984: DEC	90	151,772	39	154,594	17	56,480	146	362,846	152	379,772
NOV	43	97,788	36	157,262	21	77,938	100	332,988	109	340,508
OCT	34	71,891	19	82,508	18	67,970	71	222,369	79	237,631
SEP	38	64,403	8	47,742	17	63,839	63	175,984	64	177,252
AUG	28	50,430	7	35,680	14	57,367	49	143,477	54	152,075
JUL	31	61,462	8	48,726	9	41,157	48	151,345	53	158,888
JUN	26	73,491	6	36,476	9	35,205	41	145,172	42	147,062
MAY	18	21,258	7	26,779	5	14,545	30	62,582	34	69,943
APR	14	31,165	2	7,298	9	30,229	25	68,692	25	68,692
MAR	21	42,465	5	18,133	4	18,105	30	78,703	30	78,703
FEB	23	38,690	10	27,563	3	6,152	36	72,405	36	72,405
JAN	7	7,470	4	12,245	4	27,314	15	47,029	15	47,029
TOTAL 1983	75	168,111	14	28,415	38	105,367	127	301,893	133	311,599
1983: DEC	14	24,127	2	3,930	7	20,189	23	48,246	24	50,186
NOV	7	19,011	2	6,126	2	9,530	11	34,667	13	36,493
OCT	15	36,189	3	4,858	6	9,349	24	50,396	24	50,396
SEP	3	8,991	1	1,200	1	2,262	5	12,453	5	12,453
AUG	4	21,296	1	3,146	3	12,372	8	36,814	9	40,379
JUL	5	10,975	1	1,950	2	7,372	8	20,297	8	20,297
JUN	6	11,314	0	0	2	3,408	8	14,722	8	14,722
MAY	7	11,677	1	1,005	3	10,281	11	22,963	12	24,333
APR	1	1,558	2	2,700	1	2,000	4	6,258	4	6,258
MAR	4	11,511	0	0	6	15,889	10	27,400	10	27,400
FEB	1	2,662	1	3,500	1	2,300	3	8,462	3	8,462
JAN	8	8,800	0	0	4	10,415	12	19,215	13	20,220
TOTAL 1982	52	94,213	7	20,568	18	53,877	77	168,658	78	172,569
YRS PRIOR TO 1982	60	81,774	15	48,500	29	63,259	104	193,533	104	193,533
TOTAL WELLS REPORTED[5]	3,501	12,127,654	1,408	7,011,298	1,846	8,653,288	6,755	27,792,240	6,913	28,205,456

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE I AND TABLE II:

1. The cumulative number of wells reported in this table is the total number of wells included in the API database for each of the months and years shown, as of November 30, 1985. These data are preliminary and subject to further revisions.

2. Includes multiple completion wells which produce oil from at least one zone, but may produce gas from one or more zones. A multiple completion well is counted as one well.

3. Includes multiple completion wells which produce gas from all zones. A multiple completion well is counted as one well. Gas wells also include so-called condensate wells.

4. Includes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells. (Not applicable to Table II.)

TABLES III:

1. Total number of wells received by the API during the report month and classified by completion month and year. These wells are included in Tables I and II.

2. See footnote (2) above.

3. See footnote (3) above.

4. Includes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells.

5. Total wells reported are those received by the API for the report period November 1, 1985 through November 30, 1985. The sub-totals shown for each yearly period may not add up to the total wells reported for the period. Some wells, received during the report period, may have been completed in years prior to those shown in Table III.